

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A modular connection according to claim ~~10~~ 27 wherein ~~said the~~ the first concentric wall is radially ~~expanded~~ expandable so as to be pressure locked against ~~said the~~ the second concentric wall.

12. (Currently Amended) A modular connection according to claim 11 wherein ~~said the~~ the first concentric wall is formed on a shaft of a neck element, and ~~said the~~ the second concentric wall is formed along a portion of ~~the~~ a sidewall defining an aperture extending through a body element, and further wherein ~~said the~~ the first concentric wall is radially ~~expanded~~ expandable by insertion of a stem element into a recess formed in the neck element.

13.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic femoral stem component comprising a body element, a neck element and a stem element,
with said body element, neck element and stem element being

secured to one another with a modular connection, said modular connection comprising, in combination, a taper junction and an engaged-fit junction;

~~according to claim 13 wherein:~~

said taper junction ~~is~~ being formed by ~~the~~ interaction of a first taper with a second taper, ~~with said the~~ first taper being formed on ~~the~~ a shaft of said neck element, and ~~said the~~ second taper being formed along a portion of a sidewall defining an aperture extending through said body element; and

said engaged-fit junction ~~is~~ being formed by ~~the~~ interaction of a first concentric wall with a second concentric wall, with ~~said the~~ first concentric wall being formed on the shaft of said neck element, and ~~said the~~ second concentric wall being formed along a portion of the sidewall defining the aperture extending through said body element.

19. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic femoral stem component according to claim 18 wherein ~~said the~~ first concentric wall is disposed on the shaft of ~~the~~ said neck element coaxial with, and distal to, ~~said the~~ first taper.

20. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic femoral stem component according to claim 19 wherein ~~said~~ the second concentric wall is disposed on ~~the~~ said body element coaxial with, and distal to, ~~said~~ the second taper.

21., 22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic femoral stem component according to claim 22 29 wherein ~~said~~ the first concentric wall is radially ~~expanded~~ expandable so as to be pressure locked against ~~said~~ the second concentric wall.

24. (Currently Amended) A prosthetic femoral stem component according to claim 23 wherein ~~said~~ the first concentric wall is formed on a shaft of said neck element, and ~~said~~ the second concentric wall is formed along a portion of ~~the~~ a sidewall defining an aperture extending through said body element, and further wherein ~~said~~ the first concentric wall is radially ~~expanded~~ expandable by insertion of said stem element into a recess formed in said neck element.

25., 26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A modular connection for connecting together a plurality of separate elements so as to form a prosthetic femoral stem component, said modular connection comprising, in combination, a taper junction and an engaged-fit junction;

said engaged-fit junction being formed by interaction of a first concentric wall with a second concentric wall;

the first concentric wall being located internally of the second concentric wall; and

the first concentric wall being deformable so as to be pressure locked against the second concentric wall.

28. (New) A prosthetic femoral stem component comprising a body element, a neck element and a stem element, with said body element, neck element and stem element being secured to one another with a modular connection, the modular connection comprising, in combination, a taper junction and an engaged-fit junction;

wherein said engaged-fit junction is formed by interaction of a first concentric wall with a second concentric wall; and

wherein the first concentric wall is formed on a shaft of said neck element, and the second concentric wall is formed along

a portion of a sidewall defining an aperture extending through said body element.

29. (New) A prosthetic femoral stem component comprising a body element, a neck element and a stem element, with said body element, neck element and stem element being secured to one another with a modular connection, wherein said modular connection comprises, in combination, a taper junction and an engaged-fit junction;

wherein said engaged-fit junction is formed by interaction of a first concentric wall with a second concentric wall;

wherein the first concentric wall is located internally of the second concentric wall; and

wherein the first concentric wall is deformable so as to be pressure locked against the second concentric wall.